

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to cultural studies - lecture II, PG_00130772						
Field of study	Cultural Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		3.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Division of Culture Studies -> Institute of Culture Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Magdalena Sacha				
	Teachers		dr Tomasz Lidzbarski				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	15		1.0		59.0	75
Subject objectives	The aim of the lecture is to introduce students to the theoretical foundations, assumptions, and main issues of contemporary cultural studies, starting from the concepts of culture through the key topics that are the subject of contemporary discussions among cultural scholars and anthropologists. The lecture is complemented by exercises, directing the attention of the listeners to theoretical issues: the content discussed in the lecture is expanded with detailed readings and skills in working with scholarly texts during the exercises.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[KULL3_K05] Student actively participates in cultural and artistic life.	People studying participate in the cultural and artistic life of the Tricity and the region.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[KULL3_W02] Student is familiar with the terminology in the field of cultural and religious studies, as well as art studies.	Students are able to use terminology from the field of introduction to cultural studies.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[KULL3_U03] Student uses basic theories of culture and art, as well as concepts from cultural and religious studies and art studies.	The student is able to proficiently use basic theories of culture and art, as well as concepts from the field of introduction to cultural studies.	[SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
	[KULL3_U07] Student prepares oral presentations and discussions on topics related to culture and art, including collaborative work within a team.	Students prepare and conduct oral presentations and presentations on the topic of introduction to cultural studies, including as part of teamwork.	[SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[KULL3_K01] Student understands the necessity of lifelong learning and professional development.	Students understand the need for learning and improving in the field of cultural studies and knowledge about diverse cultures throughout their lives.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion
	[KULL3_W01] Student has organized knowledge about the place and significance of cultural and religious studies, as well as art studies, in the field of humanities. They understand their subject-specific and methodological specifics.	Students possess organized knowledge about the place and significance of the introduction to cultural studies in the field of humanities, as well as its subject-specific and methodological characteristics.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	[KULL3_W04] Student has general knowledge about social, philosophical, and historical issues that form the foundation for reflection on culture and art.	The student has organized general knowledge regarding social, philosophical, and historical issues that form the foundation for reflection on the place of cultural studies in relation to religion and art.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	The recommended curriculum content should be compatible with the preceding semester. The lecturer decides on the detailed planning of the proposed material each time. - Types of culture in a stratified society: elite, folk, popular (high / low). - Culture as a symbolic system. Culture and language: signs - their types and functions. - Theoretical approaches combining culture and language: basic characteristics. Ethnolinguistics, structuralism, semiotics, cognitive science. "Old" and "new" media in culture: transformations from orality to literacy. The concept of secondary orality. - Myth, magic, religion, ritual, rites of passage. Magical thinking in primitive communities versus contemporary myths and mythologies. - Individual and collective identity. The concept of person, ethnicity, nation, social and national character. - Types of culture: national, regional. Countercultures versus elite culture and "mass" culture.		
	Prerequisites and co-requisites		
	Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold
		Passing the final exam	80.0%
		Regular attendance (a maximum of two absences per semester is allowed).	20.0%
			Percentage of the final grade

Recommended reading	Basic literature	Aleida Assman, Wprowadzenie do kulturoznawstwa. Podstawowe terminy, problemy, pytania, Poznań 2015. Wojciech J. Burszta, Antropologia kultury. Tematy, teorie, interpretacje, wyd. I, Poznań 1998. Thomas Hylland Eriksen, Małe miejsca, wielkie sprawy. Wprowadzenie do antropologii społecznej i kulturowej, Warszawa 2009. Pojęcia i problemy wiedzy o kulturze, red. A. Kłoskowska, Seria: Encyklopedia kultury polskiej, Wrocław 1991
	Supplementary literature	Rafał Augustyn, Wykłady o kulturze, Kraków 2021
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	- Please explain the origin (etymology) of the concept of culture and outline the difference between its original meaning in antiquity and its contemporary understanding. - Please explain the difference between evaluative and descriptive definitions of culture according to Aleida Assmann. Which understanding of culture among the six discussed is most convincing to you and why? - Please discuss the arguments presented at the conclusion of Waldemar Kuligowski's lecture "The Concept of Culture" in defense of the use of the concept of culture. What is your stance on these arguments? Do you believe that the use of the term "culture" is still justified, or should it be abandoned? - What is the anthropological encounter with Otherness? Reflections on the margins of the theses contained in chapter 1 of Wojciech Burszta's "Cultural Anthropology". - The problematic relationship between NATURE and CULTURE. Reflections on the margins of the theses contained in chapter 2 of Wojciech Burszta's "Cultural Anthropology". - Please discuss the concept of cultural patterns proposed by Ruth Benedict. How can the use of Apollonian and Dionysian patterns in studying indigenous tribes be justified (or critically challenged)? - What is symbolic culture, and what subsystems of symbolic culture does Antonina Kłoskowska distinguish? - Understanding religion what role does religion play in human societies? How does its instrumental and autotelic form manifest? - Please discuss the concept of numinosum according to Rudolf Otto. What do you see as the strengths and weaknesses of this concept? "Homo religiosus" and "scapegoat" two concepts by two prominent scholars. Please characterize them and comment on their applicability in interpreting the contemporary role of religion. - Please list three types of culture in a stratified society. Then, choose one of the three types and characterize its origin, users, and the most interesting forms of representation through art, everyday life, and behaviors, in your opinion. Are there relics of the chosen type of traditional culture in contemporary mass culture? - The concept of ethos. The characteristics of chivalric ethos and its remnants in contemporary Western culture. - Please discuss the most important features of human language (described in chapter 3 of Wojciech Burszta's "Cultural Anthropology"). Which features, in your opinion, have most significantly contributed to the development of human cultures? - What theses are proposed by the so-called Sapir-Whorf hypothesis (described in chapter 3 of Wojciech Burszta's "Cultural Anthropology")? Please discuss the arguments for or against this hypothesis. - Please discuss the functions of language according to the schemes proposed by linguists, anthropologists, and philosophers in the 20th century. - The language of propaganda historical development, characteristics, and contemporary threats. - Please discuss the concept of les rites de passage by Arnold van Gennep (described in chapter 5 of Wojciech Burszta's "Cultural Anthropology"). Do we observe such rites or their relics in contemporary culture? - Cultural vision of death among the Slavs, in Polish Romanticism, and today. What is the concept of "inverted death" in contemporary Western society (Ph. Aries)? - The concept of cyclical time and linear time: how does the notion of time organize society, culture, and religion? What is the contemporary vision of "slow life" time? - The concept of proxemics in relation to the organization of space in different cultures.	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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